MEDICINAL

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a said was cosena. I fell away began using Dr. Pierce's Goldon
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EARLY VIRGINIA HISTORY. 21 COLCHESTER ON THE OCCOQUAN. (Continued)

No. 21.

grass or yielding but meagre returns to the small farmer with his scattered patches of corn and market products, staple, and as prices were mostly good in the European markets, the planter prospered under his cheap labor system and exemption from oppressive taxation and had money to spend at store and tavern. In 1758 healthy negro boys arrived in the colony for the plantations. They were bought for from 20 to 30 pounds sterling and adults from 40 to 50 pounds, and tobacco of first quality commanded from 15 to 20

shillings per hundredweigh!. In Colchester occurred the circum stance related of parson Weems, when he unexpectedly filled the role of fi dler for a strolling show of "Puech and Judy" in the absence of the regular musician. A large audience, composed chiefly of the parson's parishioners, had assembled to witness the performance, but at the eleventh hour it was found that the company's fiddler had been imbibing too much "rum" or Madeira to sweet sounds. So, knowing that Weems, who was no sorry player, was Weems, who was no sorry player, was on the ground, the showman was only too glad to press his reverence in for the emergency and it was not long before everything was going merry as a marriage bell. But unluckly one of the crowd, too curious in such matters, just before the close of the play, raising the curtain disclosed to view the tog the curtain, disclosed to view the familiar face of the jovial and merry making parson. But the disclosure, instead of working to his discredit, was promptly and considerately overlooked

he had determined that they should not be disappointed in innocent amusement. Weems termed the "iddling parson," and the story goes that like good old Lyman Beecher, of New Eng-land, he was as much at home in the semi-quavers and demi-semi quavers of the jig and the horopipe as in the slower and more staid measures of hymn and psalmody. It is related of him that on a Saturday night he would r pair to the mansion nearest the church and as soon as the evening meal was over and he had officiated with due solemnity at prayers, which came di-rectly after supper, he would produce his violin and according as the season permitted, in the parlor, the hall or on the portico would entrance the assembled auditory with a performance which long remained the delight of the story teller and a traditional model to all ambitious fiddlers. He was particu larly pleased with the scores of sable listeners who were wont to crowd under the windows or in the passages; for he knew well that the more they were delighted with his music the more ce:tain they were to be at church service

next Sunday.
Our parson of Truro parish was doubtless a sincere, enthusiastic, honest clergyman, the enemy of gambling, intemperance and most of the prevailing vices of his day against which he wrote books which had great popularity, going through many editions, and he is said to have been the genial and winning advocate of virtue and religion, the warmth of his heart and his many kindly offices endearing him to the people of all classes wherever he went and preparing them to give a fond ear to his fervid appeals for truth. Above all he was an ardent patriot whose enthusi- for three weeks, and am now a well asm for the liberties of his country man was the master passion of his soul. He was no ascetic, and did not go his ways moping and groaning in spirit because of the ills of life around him. His "odor of sanctivy" that he left with his vestments in the sacristy offended no

Of the eccentric but well meaning and striving parson whose dust rests unmarked in the family burying ground of historic Belle Air mansion, but a short distance from Occoquan, we may perhays speak as did the port Goldsmith of the preacher of the "D

The long remembered beggar was his guest."

"The ruined spendthrift now no longer proud,
Caim'd kindred there and had his claim allowed.

"August 29 and payment of twenty-five cents additional, extension of limit may be obtained until September 10, inclusive. For detailed information apply to ticket agent.

ARNOLD'S BROWG.

Those were quaint times, times of large moral and religious license. The morals were loose, and permitted wide departure from the more rigorcus standards of our straight laced times. Church observances were kept up in strict conformity with H. BAADER,
211, 213, 215 and 217 King street,
Aloxandria, Virginia,
Standards of our straight latest times.
Church observances were kept up in strict conformity with the traditional

usages and fashion prevailing in old England, and the creed and rituals of the church were not lost sight of, but beyond this there did not seem to be, judging through the lapse of time, much The region around Colchester now fervent, religious zeal among the laity overgrown with pines, cedars and sedge or ciergy. It was customary after church services, says Fontaine in his account of the manners and customs of those early times in Virginia, for the congregation to fill their pipes with the were then planted in the old Virginia fragrant plant and indulge in a friendly smoke.

At that time all the clergymen of the different parishes of the province were appointed by the governor on the re-commendation of the bishop of London, and the annual stipend of each one of them was sixteen thousand pounds of tobacco made and provided by legisla tive enactment. The value of this salary, however, was variable by reason of the changes in the market price consequent on the quantity shipped to Europe and also on account of the quality or kind of tobacco. In some parishes only "Oronoco" could be rais ed, which was inferior to "sweet scented," Many a poor clergyman's household was filled with joy at tidings of his promotion from an Oronoco parish to a sweet scented parish as they are described in the old vestry books. But there were many parishes where lit le or no tobacco could be grown to advantage and these were left without

regular ministrations.
The Virginia settlers were social and convivial to a wonderful degree. They had none of the gloomy austerity and morbid piety of the New England pu nitan. Our popular evangelizing methods had not yet sprung up among them nor were they vexed by the expostulations of our temperance socie ties. No gathering was there among them of any kind, whether civil or re-ligious, where foreign or home made drinks more or less intoxicating did not stead of working to his discredit, was promptly and considerately overlooked and forgiven when he came forward with bland and smiling countenance and told the audience by way of explant. and told the audience by way of explanation of his little irregularity that "out and even at the funeral. On every of kindness and the purest of motives were in order. "They were a gay, hap py people; a race of sportsmen, cock fighters and fox hunters, bright, humor ous and sociable; in the saddle by day and feasting and dancing by night and we leave them with the impression that the hounds were always having in Virginia, that the sun shone all day long, and all night the fiddles scraped and the darkies sung. But these man were the strongest intellects of their century. With no pretensions or show of book learning, they seem to have possessed themselves of all the essentia information of their time. They had a soundness of judgment, a breadth of grasp, a lofty ambition, and a high strung sense of honor which made them

master minds. "Some subtle combination of climate life, and thought produced this result which, like all such things, becomes difficult in the lost analysis; and unwere great makers of history, were no writers Scraps, relics and ruins are all that remain of their curious and interesting civilization, and for many phase of their life, we have only the one sided comments and criticisms on its exceses. [Continued]

Robbed the Grave.

A startling incident of which Mr. John Oliver, of Philadelphia, was the subject, is narrated by him as follows: I was in a most dreadful condition. My skin was almost yellow, eyes sunk-en, tongue coated, pain continually in back and sides, no appetite—gradually growing weaker day by day. Three physicians had given me up. Fortunstely, a friend advised trying 'Electric Bitters,' and to my great joy and sur-prise, the first bottle made a decided improvement, I continued their use man. I know they saved my life, and robbed the grave of another victim."
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Encampment Knights of Pythias. For the encompment of the Knights of Pythias Uniform Eank, and the biennial conwe may perhays speak as did the poet Goldsmith of the preacher of the "D-serted Village of Auburu:"

"Unskillful he to fawn or seek for power, By doctrine fashion'd to the varying hou; Far other aims his heart had learned to prize, More bent to raise the wretched than to zise, More bent to raise the wretched than to zise, this house was known to all the vagrant train.

He chi'd their wanderings, but re'ieved their additional, extension of limit may be obtained

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returning about 9 p. m. The next annual session will begin THURS-DAY, September 22, 1898. For ctrculars stating terms, etc., apply to the

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